prices of formulations based on 40 bulk drugs which are either totally or substantially imported. These prices have already been revised by the Government.

(e) After the announcement of Budget for the year 1993-94, the Government had written to the Industry Associations to advise their members to reduce the prices of non-scheduled bulk drugs and formulations. The Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) has reported that their members have reduced the prices of some de-controlled products due to reduction of custom duty.

Production of essential drugs

3089. SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that production of essential drugs is falling year after year ;

(b) if so, what are the names of drugs needed for National Health Programmes whose production has fallen and what was the production of each during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) what are the names of drugs being monitored by Government whose production has fallen and what was the production of each during last three years, year-wise;

(d) whether it is a fact that drug companies are concentrating more on digestives and tonics instead of medicines having therapeutic value ;

(e) whether it is also a fact that Hathi Committee recommended that each company should produce 20 per cent essential drugs compulsory;

(f) if so, whether Government are incorporating such a decision in the proposed policy; and

(g) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (d) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The production of drugs in the counry is satisfactory in general and adequate to meet the local requirements. Fall in production in individual cases is due to various reasons like introduction of therapeutically equivalent New drugs, drug obsolescence etc.

(e) to (g) A Background Note for discussion on the review of the Drug Policy, 1986 has been laid on the Table of the House on 12-8-1992.

Safeguards to check the production of illicit liquor

3090. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the safeguards Government propose to institute to check the increased production of illicit liquor after the decontrol of molasses; and

(b) whether any discussions have been held with State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (b) Following rescinding of the Molasses Control Order, 1961 and the Ethyl Alcohol (Price Control) Order, 1971 the State Governments have been advised to exercise strict vigilance on undue diversion of molasses to the potable alcohol sector. They have also been asked to take steps to check the flow of molasses for illicit distillation under the State Laws.

Enquiry against IDPL employees

3091. SHRIMATI KAMALA SINHA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to the unstarred question 386 given in the Rajya Sabha on 29-4-93 and state :

(a) what are the reasons for not furnishing complete details of the directions of dates June 1, 89, June 22, 89 and July 11, 1989;

(b) the reasons for not supplying the copies of the contents of directions of the referred dates as requested in the referred question ;

(c) whether is it a fact that the concerned official had informed the management on 3-8-89 that the enquiry was not routine as it was linked with certain allegations against him by the then Dir. (Mktg.) and they are described in the aide-memoire already with the company with reasons therefor; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the management was not replying any of the letter and putting economic pressure on the said official by their delaying tactics with reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (d) The question relates to a former Marketing Executive of IDPL whose services were terminated by the company in accordance with the provisions of Conduct, Discipline and Appeal Rules of the company. For

employees below the Board level, Government is neither the Appointing, Disciplinary, Appellate nor the Reviewing Authority and as such the Government does not intervene in the service matters of such employees of the public sector undertakings.

The company has reported that the said employee had filed a writ petition in the Hon'ble Delhi High Court against the disciplinary proceedings initiated against him by the mangement and the writ petition was dismissed by the Hon'ble High Court. While dismissing the petition the Hon'ble Delhi High Court observed "The petitioner has been unauthorisedly abstaining himself from joining since March, 1989. This is nothing short of indiscipline. In these circumstances, we are not inclined to interfere Dismissed." Aggrieved by these orders of the High Court, the petitioner filed two Special Leave Petitions in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India which were also rejected.

Krishak Bharati Co-operative Limited

3092. SHRI NAUNIHAL SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Krishak Bharati Co-operative Limited (KRIBHCO) has been driven to the path of sickness because of their inability to resort to influence paddling;

(b) if, what is the present status of KRIBHCO and the reasons for its sickness; and

(c) what steps are being taken by the new management of KRIBHCO and the Government to salvage its Rs. 142 crores investments with the scam-tainted finance companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (b) KRIBHCO has been earning profits consistently ever since it started commercial production. In fact, it has made a record post-tax profit of Rs. 145.58 crores during 1992-93.

(c) Out of the total deposits of Rs. 142.00 crores in Andhra Bank Financial Services Ltd. (ABFSL) and Canara Bank Financial Services Ltd. (Canfina), Rs. 11.50 crores, have since been recovered. KRIBHCO has made representation to the Reserve Bank of India to issue directions under the Banking Regulations Act to the above two banking companies to pay the outstanding deposits. The Society is also vigourously following up the matter with ABFSL/ Andhra Bank and Canfina/Canara Bank for recovery of the amounts due. ABFSL have offered to deliver IRFC Bonds for face value of Rs. 81 crores against the amounts owed by them to KRIBHCO.

Fermentation of antibiotics at IDPL, Rishikesh

3093. SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that as reported in the press that there have been heavy losses in fermentation of antibiotics like penicillin at IDPL, Rishikesh on account of power failure and if so, the losses suffered over the past three years, product-wise;

(b) whether such failures and reduced production have resulted in shortages of these vital drugs and possibility led to imports; and

(c) whether Government have drawn up any plans such as separate power supply and/or any other contingency foolproof plan and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) Yes, Sir. The production of Pot. Penicillin, Streptomycin, Tetracycline and Oxytetracycline had suffered due to power failures in IDPL, Rishikesh Plant during the last 3 years. The losses suffered during the said years on account of power failures were as under :—

(in terms of value)
(Rs./crores)

1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
1.87	1.99	2.39

(b) No Sir.

(c) Captive power generation is capital intensive for such fermentation plants. However, after detailed study by Experts in the Revival Package, IDPL has planned to instal 3 DG Sets and Diesel Engine operated air compressor to meet critical needs.

Taking over of Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers

3094. DR. BAPU KALDATE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal with Government for taking over the Government owned public sector unit Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers (RCF) by the Maharashtra State Co-operative sector;